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RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

STATUS OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The General Assembly, by its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child and expressed the hope that it would come into force at an early date. The Convention was opened for signature in New York on 26 January 1990 and, in accordance with article 49 thereof, entered into force on 2 September 1990, on the thirtieth day after the date of the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession.

2. In its resolution 1994/91 of 9 March 1994, the Commission on Human Rights called upon all States that had not done so to sign, ratify or accede to the Convention as a matter or priority; urged States parties to take immediate steps to ensure strict compliance with their obligations under the Convention; urged States parties that had made reservations to review the compatibility of their reservations with article 51 of the Convention and other relevant rules of international law; welcomed the constructive and useful results achieved by the Committee on the Rights of the Child during its first five sessions; welcomed the consideration by the Committee of the reservations and declarations entered by States parties to the Convention when examining the reports of the States parties; recalled the recommendation contained in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action that the Committee study the question of raising the minimum age of recruitment into the armed forces; noted with appreciation the work done by the Committee on this issue,

and in particular the preliminary draft optional protocol to the Convention on the involvement of children in armed conflicts (E/CN.4/1994/91); decided to establish an open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission to elaborate, as a matter of priority, a draft optional protocol to the Convention on Human Rights on this issue; expressed deep concern at the continued exploitation and abuse of children, requiring effective measures against, in particular, the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography; noted the concern voiced by the Committee about the economic exploitation of children and took note with interest of the set of recommendations adopted by the Committee on the issue at its fifth session; expressed concern at the increasingly heavy workload of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the resulting difficulties faced by it in the fulfilment of its functions; welcomed General Assembly resolution 48/157 in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to appoint an expert to undertake a comprehensive study on the protection of children in armed conflicts, and requested States Members and United Nations bodies and organizations and other relevant organizations to contribute to the study; invited United Nations bodies and organizations as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify their efforts with a view to disseminating information on the Convention and promoting its understanding; and requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child to the Commission at its fifty-first session.

3. As at 10 November 1994 the Convention had received 138 signatures, 129 of which were followed by ratification. In addition, 32 States had acceded to the Convention and 6 had succeeded to it, bringing the total of ratifications and accessions to the Convention to 167. A list of States that have ratified or acceded to the Convention, and the dates of their signature, ratification or accession, appears in the annex to the present report.

4. The Committee on the Rights of the Child held its sixth (special) session from 5 to 22 April at the United Nations Office at Geneva following a request made by the Committee at its fourth session in view of the high number of initial reports awaiting consideration. At that session the Committee considered reports submitted by six States parties to the Convention. In addition, the Committee reviewed its cooperation with United Nations bodies, and decided to prepare comments for consideration by the working group established by the Commission on the elaboration of a draft optional protocol on involvement of children in armed conflicts, in the light of the thematic general discussion it had held on the question "Children in armed conflicts". It also decided to prepare its comments on guidelines for a possible draft optional protocol to the Convention on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, in the light of the thematic general discussion held on "Economic exploitation of children". The Committee adopted a report on its sixth session (CRC/C/29).

5. The Committee on the Rights of the Child held its seventh session from 26 September to 14 October 1994 at the United Nations Office at Geneva. During that session, the Committee considered reports submitted by six States parties to the Convention. On 10 October 1994 the Committee held a day of general discussion on "The role of the family in the promotion of the rights of the child". In addition, the Committee welcomed the appointment of the

expert entrusted by the Secretary-General with the task of carrying out the comprehensive study on the protection of children in armed conflicts, and decided to closely cooperate with her in the preparation of her study. The Committee also recalled the importance of holding regional meetings. It furthermore reaffirmed its openness to continue to cooperate with the Centre for Human Rights, other relevant bodies within the United Nations system and other competent bodies in the field of advisory services and technical assistance. The Committee adopted a report on its seventh session (CRC/C/34).

6. The Fourth Meeting of the States parties to the Convention was convened by the Secretary-General at United Nations Headquarters on 10 October 1994, for the purpose of recommending that the General Assembly take action to increase the number of regular sessions of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and of its pre-sessional working groups from two to three annually, effective from 1995. In a resolution adopted without a vote, the States parties recommended that the Assembly take such action.

Annex

STATES WHICH HAVE RATIFIED OR ACCEDED TO THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD AS AT 10 NOVEMBER 1994 (167)

States	Date of signature	Date of receipt of instrument of ratification/ accession a/	Date of entry into force
Afghanistan	27 September 1990	28 March 1994	27 April 1994
Albania	26 January 1990	27 February 1992	28 March 1992
Algeria	26 January 1990	16 April 1993	16 May 1993
Angola	14 February 1990	5 December 1990	4 January 1991
Antigua and Barbuda	12 March 1991	5 October 1993	4 November 1993
Argentina	29 June 1990	4 December 1990	3 January 1991
Armenia		23 June 1993 a/	22 July 1993
Australia	22 August 1990	17 December 1990	16 January 1991
Austria	26 January 1990	6 August 1992	5 September 1992
Azerbaijan		13 August 1992 a/	12 September 1992
Bahamas	30 October 1990	20 February 1991	22 March 1991
Bahrain		13 February 1992 a/	14 March 1992
Bangladesh	26 January 1990	3 August 1990	2 September 1990
Barbados	19 April 1990	9 October 1990	8 November 1990
Belarus	26 January 1990	1 October 1990	31 October 1990
Belgium	26 January 1990	16 December 1991	15 January 1992
Belize	2 March 1990	2 May 1990	2 September 1990
Benin	25 April 1990	3 August 1990	2 September 1990
Bhutan	4 June 1990	1 August 1990	2 September 1990
Bolivia	8 March 1990	26 June 1990	2 September 1990
Bosnia and Herzegovina*			6 March 1992
Brazil	26 January 1990	24 September 1990	24 October 1990
Bulgaria	31 May 1990	3 June 1991	3 July 1991
Burkina Faso	26 January 1990	31 August 1990	30 September 1990
Burundi	8 May 1990	19 October 1990	18 November 1990
Cambodia	22 September 1992	15 October 1992	14 November 1992
Cameroon	25 September 1990	11 January 1993	10 February 1993
Canada	28 May 1990	13 December 1991	12 January 1992
Cape Verde		4 June 1992 a/	4 July 1992
Central African Republic	30 July 1990	23 April 1992	23 May 1992
Chad	30 September 1990	2 October 1990	1 November 1990
Chile	26 January 1990	13 August 1990	12 September 1990
China	29 August 1990	2 March 1992	1 April 1992
Colombia	26 January 1990	28 January 1991	27 February 1991
Comoros	30 September 1990	22 June 1993	21 July 1993

States	Date of signature	Date of receipt of instrument of ratification/ accession a/	Date of entry into force
Congo		14 October 1993 a/	13 November 1993
Costa Rica	26 January 1990	21 August 1990	20 September 1990
Côte d'Ivoire	26 January 1990	4 February 1991	6 March 1991
Croatia*			8 October 1991
Cuba	26 January 1990	21 August 1991	20 September 1991
Cyprus	5 October 1990	7 February 1991	9 March 1991
Czech Republic*			1 January 1993
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	23 August 1990	21 September 1990	21 October 1990
Denmark	26 January 1990	19 July 1991	18 August 1991
Djibouti	30 September 1990	6 December 1990	5 January 1991
Dominica	26 January 1990	13 March 1991	12 April 1991
Dominican Republic	8 August 1990	11 June 1991	11 July 1991
Ecuador	26 January 1990	23 March 1990	2 September 1990
Egypt	5 February 1990	6 July 1990	2 September 1990
El Salvador	26 January 1990	10 July 1990	2 September 1990
Equatorial Guinea		15 June 1992 a/	15 July 1992
Eritrea	20 December 1993	3 August 1994	2 September 1994
Estonia		21 October 1991 a/	20 November 1991
Ethiopia		14 May 1991 a/	13 June 1991
Fiji	2 July 1993	13 August 1993	12 September 1993
Finland	26 January 1990	20 June 1991	20 July 1991
France	26 January 1990	7 August 1990	6 September 1990
Gabon	26 January 1990	9 February 1994	11 March 1994
Gambia	5 February 1990	8 August 1990	7 September 1990
Germany	26 January 1990	6 March 1992	5 April 1992
Georgia		2 June 1994 a/	2 July 1994
Ghana	29 January 1990	5 February 1990	2 September 1990
Greece	26 January 1990	11 May 1993	10 June 1993
Grenada	21 February 1990	5 November 1990	5 December 1990
Guatemala	26 January 1990	6 June 1990	2 September 1990
Guinea		13 July 1990 a/	2 September 1990
Guinea-Bissau	26 January 1990	20 August 1990	19 September 1990
Guyana	30 September 1990	14 January 1991	13 February 1991
Holy See	20 April 1990	20 April 1990	2 September 1990
Honduras	31 May 1990	10 August 1990	9 September 1990

States	Date of signature	Date of receipt of instrument of ratification/ accession a/	Date of entry into force
Hungary	14 March 1990	7 October 1991	6 November 1991
Iceland	26 January 1990	28 October 1992	27 November 1992
India		11 December 1992 a/	11 January 1993
Indonesia	26 January 1990	5 September 1990	5 October 1990
Iran (Islamic Rep. of)	5 September 1991	13 July 1994	12 August 1994
Iraq		15 June 1994 a/	15 July 1994
Ireland	30 September 1990	28 September 1992	28 October 1992
Israel	3 July 1990	3 October 1991	2 November 1991
Italy	26 January 1990	5 September 1991	5 October 1991
Jamaica	26 January 1990	14 May 1991	13 June 1991
Japan	21 September 1990	22 April 1994	22 May 1994
Jordan	29 August 1990	24 May 1991	23 June 1991
Kazakhstan	16 February 1994	12 August 1994	11 September 1994
Kenya	26 January 1990	30 July 1990	2 September 1990
Kuwait	7 June 1990	21 October 1991	20 November 1991
Kyrgyzstan		7 October 1994 a/	6 November 1994
Lao People's Democratic Republic		8 May 1991 a/	7 June 1991
Latvia		14 April 1992 a/	14 May 1992
Lebanon	26 January 1990	14 May 1991	13 June 1991
Lesotho	21 August 1990	10 March 1992	9 April 1992
Liberia	26 April 1990	4 June 1993	4 July 1993
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		15 April 1993 a/	15 May 1993
Lithuania		31 January 1992 a/	1 March 1992
Luxembourg	21 March 1990	7 March 1994	6 April 1994
Madagascar	19 April 1990	19 March 1991	18 April 1991
Malawi		2 January 1991 a/	1 February 1991
Maldives	21 August 1990	11 February 1991	13 March 1991
Mali	26 January 1990	20 September 1990	20 October 1990
Malta	26 January 1990	30 September 1990	30 October 1990
Marshall Islands	14 April 1993	4 October 1993	3 November 1993
Mauritania	26 January 1990	16 May 1991	15 June 1991
Mauritius		26 July 1990 a/	2 September 1990
Mexico	26 January 1990	21 September 1990	21 October 1990
Micronesia (Fed. State of)		5 May 1993 a/	4 June 1993
Monaco		21 June 1993 a/	21 July 1993

States	Date of signature	Date of receipt of instrument of ratification/ accession a/	Date of entry into force
Mongolia	26 January 1990	5 July 1990	2 September 1990
Morocco	26 January 1990	21 June 1993	21 July 1993
Mozambique	30 September 1990	26 April 1994	26 May 1994
Myanmar		15 July 1991 a/	14 August 1991
Namibia	26 September 1990	30 September 1990	30 October 1990
Nauru		27 July 1994 a/	26 August 1994
Nepal	26 January 1990	14 September 1990	14 October 1990
New Zealand	1 October 1990	6 April 1993	6 May 1993
Nicaragua	6 February 1990	5 October 1990	4 November 1990
Niger	26 January 1990	30 September 1990	30 October 1990
Nigeria	26 January 1990	19 April 1991	19 May 1991
Norway	26 January 1990	8 January 1991	7 February 1991
Pakistan	20 September 1990	12 November 1990	12 December 1990
Panama	26 January 1990	12 December 1990	11 January 1991
Papua New Guinea	30 September 1990	1 March 1993	31 March 1993
Paraguay	4 April 1990	25 September 1990	25 October 1990
Peru	26 January 1990	4 September 1990	4 October 1990
Philippines	26 January 1990	21 August 1990	20 September 1990
Poland	26 January 1990	7 June 1991	7 July 1991
Portugal	26 January 1990	21 September 1990	21 October 1990
Republic of Korea	25 September 1990	20 November 1991	20 December 1991
Republic of Moldova		26 January 1993 a/	25 February 1993
Romania	26 January 1990	28 September 1990	28 October 1990
Russian Federation	26 January 1990	16 August 1990	15 September 1990
Rwanda	26 January 1990	24 January 1991	23 February 1991
Saint Kitts and Nevis	26 January 1990	24 July 1990	2 September 1990
Saint Lucia		16 June 1993 a/	16 July 1993
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	20 September 1993	26 October 1993	25 November 1993
San Marino		25 November 1991 a/	25 December 1991
Sao Tome and Principe		14 May 1991 a/	13 June 1991
Senegal	26 January 1990	31 July 1990	2 September 1990
Seychelles		7 September 1990 a/	7 October 1990
Sierra Leone	13 February 1990	18 June 1990	2 September 1990
Slovakia*			1 January 1993
Slovenia*			25 June 1991

States	Date of signature	Date of receipt of instrument of ratification/ accession a/	Date of entry into force
Spain	26 January 1990	6 December 1990	5 January 1991
Sri Lanka	26 January 1990	12 July 1991	11 August 1991
Sudan	24 July 1990	3 August 1990	2 September 1990
Suriname	26 January 1990	1 March 1993	31 March 1993
Sweden	26 January 1990	29 June 1990	2 September 1990
Syrian Arab Republic	18 September 1990	15 July 1993	14 August 1993
Tajikistan		26 October 1993 a/	25 November 1993
Thailand		27 March 1992 a/	26 April 1992
The Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia*			17 September 1991
Togo	26 January 1990	1 August 1990	2 September 1990
Trinidad and Tobago	30 September 1990	5 December 1991	4 January 1992
Tunisia	26 February 1990	30 January 1992	29 February 1992
Turkmenistan		20 September 1993 a/	19 October 1993
Uganda	17 August 1990	17 August 1990	16 September 1990
Ukraine	21 February 1991	28 August 1991	27 September 1991
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	19 April 1990	16 December 1991	15 January 1992
United Republic of Tanzania	1 June 1990	10 June 1991	10 July 1991
Uruguay	26 January 1990	20 November 1990	20 December 1990
Uzbekistan		29 June 1994 a/	29 July 1994
Vanuatu	30 September 1990	7 July 1993	6 August 1993
Venezuela	26 January 1990	13 September 1990	13 October 1990
Viet Nam	26 January 1990	28 February 1990	2 September 1990
Yemen	13 February 1990	1 May 1991	31 May 1991
Yugoslavia	26 January 1990	3 January 1991	2 February 1991
Zaire	20 March 1990	27 September 1990	27 October 1990
Zambia	30 September 1990	5 December 1991	5 January 1992
Zimbabwe	8 March 1990	11 September 1990	11 October 1990

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* Succession.

a/ Accession.